FRESNO - Congressman Jim Costa (D-Fresno) has appointed Bakersfield resident, Yolanda Prado, as a delegate to the White House Conference on Aging. Ms. Prado will represent the 20th Congressional District at the conference in Washington, DC that is set to begin on Saturday, December 10, 2005.

This once-a-decade event is designed to bring individuals from various backgrounds together in the effort to promote wellness, dignity, independence and economic security for older Americans. Based on the outcome of discussions during the conference recommendations will be made to the White House and Congress on aging policy.

"Ms. Prado, a senior health advocate, has much experience in the area and will have the ability to voice appropriate concerns and help find progressive solutions," Costa stated. He pointed out that for the past twenty-seven years Yolanda has worked with Medicare, Medi-Cal and employer health insurances. She has served on the California health Advocates Board and the Kern Senior Collaborative Healthcare Committee.

" A proven advocate, Yolanda will not only return from the conference with a wealth of knowledge, she will also take to the conference a record of commitment to excellence in her dedicated service to the Kern County senior community, " Congressman Costa concluded.

Currently Yolanda is the Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy Program manager for the Kern County Aging and Adult Services Department.